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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/798,504	03/11/2004	Chang Soo Kim	1824.01	6390

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EXAMINER

SAWHNEY, HARGOBIND S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2875

DATE MAILED: 01/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/798,504	Applicant(s) KIM, CHANG SOO	
	Examiner Hargobind S. Sawhney	Art Unit 2875	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 October 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-14 and 16-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 2, 9 and 15 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The terminal disclaimer filed on October 27, 2005 has been entered, recorded^d and accepted. Accordingly, the double patenting rejections of claims 1-20 have been withdrawn.^k

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 3-5 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saar (US Patent No.: 4,628,421).

Regarding Claim 1, Saar ('421) discloses a lamp system (Figure 2) comprising:

- a circuit board 32 connected to a controller 82, and further having a plurality of electrical ports 59 (Figure 2, column 4, lines 39 and 49-54); each of the light bulbs 56 having its base 56a detachably mounted in one of the electrical ports 59 (Figure 2, column 5, lines 1-9); the light bulb 56 being a blinkable (Figure 2, column 5, lines 46-50); a flashing member – included in the controller 82 (Figure 4) – provided between the bulb base of each bulb and the port 59 (Figure 2, column 5, lines 46-52); a substantially transparent covering 72 – the combination including a slide

panel 72 with elements 72a, 72b and 74 (Figure 2) - detachably mounted over the circuit board 32; and the transparent covering 72 further including hook rails 72a and 72b and a slide panel –horizontal clear cover portion 72 with color filter 74 – detachably slide in the hook rails 72a and 72b (Figure 2, column 5, lines 44-49).

Saar ('421) discloses the lamp having a transparent covering including only one slidable panel covering and protecting all of the light bulbs and the circuit board, instead of using more than one slidable panels for the purpose detailed above.

It would be have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to make the slidable panel with more than one pieces , since it has been held that forming an article including more than one pieces, which has formerly been formed in one piece is a merely a matter obvious engineering choice, and involves only routine skill in the art. Further, a slide panel divided into more than one pieces is easy to handle and assemble for a large display unit.

Regarding claims 3 and 5, Saar ('421) discloses the lamp further including:

- the slide panel 72- horizontal clear cover portion 72 with color filter 74- being colored glass (Figure 2, column 5, lines 63-68); and
- the flashing member being a bulb flasher (Figures 2 and 4, column 5, lines 46-50).

Regarding claim 4, Saar ('421) discloses the lamp having a transparent covering including the glass with one color, instead of the covering having two-tone cover as claimed by the applicant.

It would be have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the lamp including its covering colored with two-tone coloring, since it has been held that coloring the covering with two-tone color, instead of with one-tone color is a merely a matter obvious engineering choice, and involves only routine skill in the art.

Regarding claim 7, Saar ('421) discloses the lamp including a controller powering and operationally controlling the light bulbs positioned. However, Saar ('421) does not teach specific positioning of the controller with respect to the lamp assembly.

It would be have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to position the controller indoor for its easy access for the operator, and protection against environmental degradation. Further it has been held that rearranging parts of a prior art structure involves only routing skill in the art.

4. Claims 6, 8 and 10-14, 16-18 and 20, are is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saar (US Patent No.: 4,628,421) in view of London (US Patent No.: 1,714,882).

Regarding Claim 6, Saar ('421) discloses the lamp including: a colorless transparent covering lined with a color filter film, which makes it a colored covering; and a plurality of light bulbs. However, Saar ('421) does not specifically teach the light bulbs being color bulb. A color filter on the transparent covering, white light bulbs has been regarded as an alternative option.

On the other hand, London ('882) teaches an illuminated device allowing either a color light bulb with a colorless, transparent covering, or a colored covering with a light bulb emitting colorless light (Figure 1, page 1, lines 90-94).

It would be have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the lamp of Saar ('421) by providing colored light bulb with a colorless transparent covering for the benefits of reduction in manufacturing cost of the device.

Regarding claims 8 and 10-14, 16-18 and 20, Saar ('421) in view of London ('882) discloses a lamp system meeting the limitations of the claims in similar manner as that applied for the rejections of claims 1 and 3-7 detailed above, and in section 3.

Regarding claim 19, neither Saar ('421) nor London ('882) teaches the lamp system being portable.

It would be have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention further modify the lamp taught by Saar ('421) in view of London ('882) potable, since it has been held that making a claimed device portable or movable is not sufficient by itself to patentably distinguish over an otherwise old device unless there are new or unexpected results.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 2, 9 and 15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The prior art of record, including Saar ('421) and London ('882), does not show or suggest the applicant's invention as claimed. Specifically, the prior art of record does not disclose a lamp combining:

- a decorative cap detachably mounted on top of the covering as recited in claims 2, 9 and 15.

The above-indicated combination and a typical arrangement, a detachable cap mounted on the transparent covering protecting the lamps and the circuit board, makes this invention unique.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Edwards et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,901,461), Harper (U.S. Patent No. 4,587,753), Webster, Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent No. 3,666,936) and Gilmartin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,406,129)

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hargobind S Sawhney whose telephone number is 571 272 2380. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:15 - 2:45.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on 571 272 2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2875

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

HSS

1/4/2006


ALI ALAVI
PRIMARY EXAMINER